

## **FISCAL NOTE**

### **SB 2852 - HB 2701**

March 17, 2000

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Provides if a judge of the General Sessions Court is absent due to disability for a period of six months or longer, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, after conducting a hearing, may determine that the judge is permanently disabled and shall declare that a vacancy exists in the office. Such vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the governor.

#### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant**

**Decrease Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant**

Assumes some expense associated with conducting a hearing to determine if the judge is a permanently disabled. Upon the determination of disability, the office will be declared vacant and a new judge appointed.

Salaries of general sessions judges are the responsibility of county governments. To the extent that a special judge, appointed due to the disability of a general sessions judge, is required for a shorter period of time due to provisions contained in the bill, local governments would realize a decrease in expenditures. The number of occurrences in which this is estimated to occur is not estimated to be significant and any savings as the result of paying for a special judge for shorter periods of time is not estimated to be significant.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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